

HEALTH
910970A
28

LIBRARY

BOROUGH OF STOURBRIDGE

R E P O R T



on the work of the

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

for

1942

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b3014131x>

BOROUGH OF STOURBRIDGE

Mayor:
COUNCILLOR J.F. PEARSON, J.P.

Deputy Mayor:
COUNCILLOR C. BROUGHTON, J.P.

Medical Officer of Health:
CARRICK G. PAYTON, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.
(Also Medical Superintendent of the North Worcestershire
Joint Isolation Hospital).

Sanitary Inspector, also Inspector under Petroleum and
Shops Acts:

* A. E. K. KENT, A.R. San.I., M.S.I.A.
(On Active Service, 25th August, 1939)

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:
* E. A. BURN, A.R. San.I., M.S.I.A.
(On Active Service, 4th March, 1940)

* R. F. ROBINS, A.R. San.I.
(On Active Service, 15th February, 1940)

Temporary Senior Sanitary Inspector, and Inspector under
Petroleum and Shops Acts:

* J. S. HAWORTH, M.S.I.A., M.R. San.I.
(From 7th March, 1941)

Clerical Staff:
N.F. COOKSON
(On Active Service, 23rd September, 1940).

A. POWELL (Temp.) MRS. E. MASON.

G. W. NOKE
(On Active Service, 11th February, 1941)

MISS K. YOUNG
MISS R. BURY (Temp.)

* - Certificated Meat and Food Inspector

/ - Certificated Smoke Inspector.

THE ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1942

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Members of the Stourbridge Town Council.

An abbreviated Report is presented.

As in the previous year, the bulk of the work done in the Public Health Department has been in relation to the administration of the Civil Defence Casualty Service.

I express my thanks to Mr. Powell (Temporary Chief Clerk) for the work he has put into this Report.

SECTION A

In the interests of National Security, considerable omissions have been made.

Vital Statistics for the Year

BIRTHS

Live Births

	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate	277	246	523
Illegitimate	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>14</u>
	<u>283</u>	<u>254</u>	<u>537</u>

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 15.52
Birth Rate for England and Wales 15.8

Still Births

	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate	12	6	18
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>12</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>18</u>

Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births 16.04

DEATHS

Males	200
Females	<u>163</u>
	<u>363</u>

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 10.49
Death Rate for England and Wales 11.6

Deaths from Puerperal Causes

Puerperal Sepsis	-
Other Maternal Causes	3

The Maternal Mortality Rates - per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births for England and Wales were:-

Puerperal Sepsis	0.42
Other Maternal Causes	1.59

Deaths of Infants under One
Year of Age

			M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate ...	...	...	11	8	19
Illegitimate ...	...	...	-	1	1
Totals ...			<u>11</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>20</u>

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 Live Births	37.24
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate Live Births	36.32
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate Live Births	31.42

The Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales was 49 per 1,000 Live Births.

	CAUSES OF DEATH					M.	F.
1. Typhoid Fever, etc.						-	-
2. Cerebro Spinal Fever						1	-
3. Scarlet Fever						-	-
4. Whooping Cough						-	-
5. Diphtheria						-	-
6. Respiratory Tuberculosis						9	4
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis						1	1
8. Syphilitic Diseases						2	-
9. Influenza						-	-
10. Measles						-	-
11. Ac. Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis						-	-
12. Ac. Inf. Encephalitis						1	1
13. Cancer of buc; cav. and aesoph (M); uterus (F) ...						2	1
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum						4	7
15. Cancer of breast						-	4
16. Cancer of all other sites						21	13
17. Diabetes						1	3
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions						24	16
19. Heart Disease						43	42
20. Other diseases of circulatory system						5	8
21. Bronchitis						16	4
22. Pneumonia						9	4
23. Other respiratory diseases						2	2
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum						3	1
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 years)						1	2
26. Appendicitis						2	1
27. Other Digestive diseases						2	3
28. Nephritis						10	7
29. Puerperal and Post-abortion Sepsis ..						-	-
30. Other Maternal Causes						-	3
31. Premature Birth						3	2
32. Congenital Malformation, birth injury, infantile diseases						7	4
33. Suicide						4	1
34. Road Traffic Accidents						2	-
35. Other Violent causes						6	6
36. All other causes						19	23
	Total ...					200	163

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 52
 Deaths from Measles (all ages) -
 Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... -
 Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of
age) ... 3

SECTION B

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

(i) Public Health Officers

Particulars of the Public Health Officers, together with information as to their qualifications, are set out on Page 2.

(ii) (a) Laboratory Facilities

Examination of clinical material (Sputum, swabs, etc.), water, milk and foodstuffs is done at the Worcestershire County Laboratory.

(ii) (b) Ambulance Facilities are

Two motor ambulances under the control of the Public Health Committee.

During the year, 1,258 patients were transported and a total mileage of 13,723 covered.

(ii) (c) Nursing in the Home

(a) GENERAL. The Stourbridge District Nursing Association, which is a voluntary organisation, employs two Nurses, whose services are available for residents in the Stourbridge and Pedmore areas. The Lye and Wollescote Nursing Association, also a voluntary organisation, employs a nurse.

(b) There is no provision for Professional Nursing of cases of Infectious Diseases treated at home, excepting Ophthalmia Neonatorum, cases of which are attended by the Infant Welfare Centre Nurse.

(ii) (d) Clinics and Treatment Centres

The Maternity and Infant Welfare Centre at No.40 New Road, is under the control of a Voluntary Committee and a contribution is made by the Town Council to the funds of this Committee. The Town Council own the premises occupied by the Centre.

An Orthopaedic Clinic, under the auspices of the Worcestershire County Council, is held daily at the Centre, for massage and remedial exercises.

An Ante-natal clinic is held at the Centre on Monday mornings, and is attended by an Assistant County Medical Officer. (An Ante-natal clinic is also held at the Mary Stevens Maternity Home on the second and fourth Tuesdays, and is attended by an Assistant County Medical Officer).

A special Toddlers Clinic is held on the first and third Wednesdays in each month. This is intended for the supervision of the health of children between the ages of one and five years.

A monthly Dental Clinic, especially for toddlers and young children, is held at the Centre on Saturday mornings.

There is a second Maternity and Infant Welfare Centre at Orchard Lane, Lye, under the control of the County Council and with the same facilities as the Stourbridge Clinic.

(ii) (d) Clinics and Treatment Centres
(continued)

Prevention of Diphtheria

Clinics for Immunisation of children against Diphtheria are held as required at Stourbridge and at Lye. The Clinics are provided free by the Borough Council.

Scabies

A Scabies Clinic was opened at Lye Welfare Centre in November for the treatment of children and adult females resident in the Borough. Weekly sessions were held when necessary.

Government Milk Scheme

Expectant mothers, and children under 5 years, are eligible for free or cheap milk, and all children under 2 years have received a supply of vitamins, viz.: Cod Liver Oil and Fruit Juice.

(ii) (c) Hospitals: Public and Voluntary

<u>Name.</u>	<u>Situation.</u>	<u>Purpose.</u>	<u>No. of Beds.</u>
North Worcs. Joint Isolation	Hayley Green, near Halesowen.	Infectious Diseases	46
"	"	Tuberculosis	17
Stourbridge & Halesowen Joint	Lutley, Halesowen	Small Pox	8
Corbett	Ambleside, nr. Stourbridge	General	100
Mary Stevens Maternity Home	Stourbridge	Maternity	16

SECTION C

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water

The Stourbridge and District Water Board is responsible for the Water Supply, which was satisfactory both as regards quality and quantity. Several Works and the Corporation Baths pump water from their own wells.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The main sewers in the Stourbridge area are under the control of the Stourbridge Main Drainage Board. The sewers in Lye and Wollescote area are under the control of the Upper Stour Valley Sewerage Board. The sewage is conveyed to the Whittington sewage farms belonging to these Boards, and is treated on the Broad Irrigation principle.

Public Cleansing

The Scavenging is carried out by direct labour and is dealt with by controlled tipping, being spread over small areas, covered and levelled. At the end of the year there were three tips in use, viz., Corporation Depot, Birmingham Street; Wollaston Hall Estate; Bromley Street, Lye.

Ashpits are emptied as required, and the contents of movable ashbins collected weekly. The few privies are cleared as required, the contents being buried. Cesspools are emptied and the contents either tipped down sewers or spread over farm land.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

The Sanitary Inspector has furnished me with the following statement as required by Article 27 (18) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935.

(a) The number and nature of inspections made during the year:-

Inspections of houses and premises ...	...	...	219
Inspections under Housing Regulations	...	...	23
Overcrowding ...	...	...	4
Visits re Notifiable Disease	...	...	271
Visits re Tuberculosis	...	...	32
Re-Inspections and Re-Visits	...	...	240
Nuisances abated	...	...	178
Slaughter - houses	...	...	2
Visits to School Sanitary Accommodation	...	...	2
Dairies and Cowsheds ...	...	...	18
Factories and Workshops	...	...	10
Visits to Public Market	...	...	4
Bakehouses	...	...	10
Visits re Unsound Food	...	...	203
Visits re Shops Acts	...	...	73
Rat Infestation	...	...	23
Vermin Infestation	...	...	10
Water Samples taken	...	...	36
Milk Sedimentation Tests	...	...	7
Food and Drugs Act and Bacteriological Samples taken			108
Other Visits under Food and Drugs Act	...	...	15
Petroleum Acts ...	...	...	8
Caravans ...	...	...	1
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	22
Visits re Public Health (Meat) Regulations			29
No. of Visits re Pig Killing	...	...	183
Owners, Builders, etc., interviewed	...	...	17
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	101
Visits to Pig Stys	...	...	288
No. of Drains tested ...	...	...	7
Air Raid Shelters inspected...	...	...	23
Visits re Sale and Manufacture of Ice Cream	...	...	33
Total ...			<u>2200</u>

(b) Number of Notices Served during the year:-

Preliminary Notices served or given verbally 171

(These Preliminary Notices refer chiefly to minor housing defects, choked drains, cleansing of premises, etc.)

Statutory Notices 16

Details of Statutory Notices:-

No. of Notices.	No. of Houses or Premises Affected.
--------------------	---

Public Health Act, 1936:-

Abatement of Nuisances 14 12

Housing Act, 1936:-

Section 9 (Repairs to Houses) 1 1

Demolition Orders on breach of
undertaking 5 2

Overcrowding (Notice to Owner) 1 1

(c) The result of the service of such Notices:-

Preliminary Notices complied with 178

Statutory Notices complied with 13

Of the 14 Notices served under the Public Health Act, 12 were complied with, thus leaving 2 outstanding.

Five Notices were served under the Housing Act for breach of undertaking in respect of 2 houses, at which considerable repairs were subsequently carried out.

The Notice served on the owner of an overcrowded dwelling house was complied with.

SECTION DHousing

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:-

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	61
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	62
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	11
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	11
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	2
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	34

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of formal Notices:

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	13
---	----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-

(A) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936:-

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	1
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a) By owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	2
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notices:-	
(a) By owners	2
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil

(C) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil

(D) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	-
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit ..	-

4. Housing Act, 1936 - Overcrowding:

Accurate figures are not available owing to influx of unofficial evacuees, and it was not found possible during the year to relieve any of the known cases.

SECTION E

Inspection and Supervision of Food

(A)

Milk Supply

There are 11 producers of milk within the Borough with a total of approximately 210 cows. The total number of retailers registered for the sale of milk within the Borough is 44.

The cowsheds and dairies were regularly inspected and in spite of labour difficulties, were maintained in satisfactory condition. A number of dirt sedimentation tests were carried out, all of which were satisfactory.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS

The Licences held in the Borough are as follows:-

	Pasteurised.	Accredited.	Tuberculin Tested.
Retailers (Supplementary Licences)	4	1	1

Bacteriological Examinations

(a) Milk Seven samples were submitted for bacteriological examination with results ranging from 1.100000 to 2.100000 Bacteria per millilitre with B.Coli present in 1, 1/10th, 1/100th and 1/1000th millilitres. Too much importance cannot, however, be placed on these figures due to the difficulties of transport to the County Laboratory. The Local Authority will, however, co-operate with the Ministry of Agriculture in connection with the National Milk Testing Scheme and more satisfactory results are anticipated.

(b) Ice Cream A comprehensive survey, including Bacteriological Reports, was made to the Public Health Committee on this subject in March and August. Recommendations were made to the Manufacturers and subsequent Bacteriological Reports indicated considerable improvement by some of the Manufacturers

The manufacture and sale of Ice Cream ceased in September 1942, but the results indicate that a reasonably pure Ice Cream can be produced when sufficient care is taken.

Definite standards for the chemical and bacteriological composition of Ice Cream would be welcomed.

(B)

Meat and Other Foods

The Rationing of food had the effect of increasing the work of food inspection as it became necessary for the traders to have a Condemnation Certificate for all foodstuffs found to be unfit. In this connection the Department worked in close co-operation with the Ministry of Food, in order to ensure that any unfit food having salvage value did not become a total loss. The following is the amount of foodstuffs surrendered as being unfit for human consumption:-

14 Pigs Heads (Tuberculosis)
3 Pigs Frys "
5 Pigs Mesenteries (Tuberculosis)
8 Pigs Lungs & Hearts (Pleurisy & Pericarditis)
1 Pigs Liver (Fatty Infiltration)
1502 Eggs
265 lbs. Bacon - Ham
45 lbs. Cheese
78 lbs. Sausage
36 lbs. Cake
40 lbs. Rabbits
18 lbs. Oranges
219 lbs. Wet Fish
11 lbs. Butter & Margarine
51 lbs. Jam & Marmalade
5000 tins Milk
27 tins Powdered Milk
47 tins (6 lb.) Pork Luncheon Meat etc.
474 tins Various Foodstuffs.

15 Licences were issued under the Slaughter of Animals Act 1933 during the year.

ADULTERATION

(C)

Food and Drugs Act

73 Samples of food (including 48 of Milk) were submitted for analysis.

In 9 cases Milk was found to be deficient in fat and in 2 cases deficient in solids not fat. Prosecutions were not advised however due to the small deficiencies and the possible variations in the quality of the Milk.

Prosecutions were obtained in respect of 2 samples of Sage & Onion Stuffing. One sample contained the equivalent of 45% raw onion, the other contained none at all. The Magistrates accepted the County Analyst's suggested standard of an onion content equivalent to 25% raw onion, and the defendants were fined £12.12.0d. with £12.12.0d. costs and £20 with £12.12.0d. costs respectively.

Proceedings were instituted in one case where a Retailer refused to serve a pint of milk, the defendant being fined 10/- for obstruction.

SECTION FPrevalence of, and control over, Infectious and other DiseasesSmall Pox

No case was reported during the year. No cases have occurred in the Borough since 1931.

Scarlet Fever

The type of disease was again of a mild nature. 89 cases, or 2.57 per thousand of the population, were reported during the year, as compared with 82 in the previous year.

Diphtheria

Twenty-one cases of Diphtheria, equivalent to an incidence of 0.6 per thousand population, were notified during the year. There were no deaths. Of the 21 cases of Diphtheria reported during the year, 11 were clinical and 10 non-clinical (carriers). Two cases only - both carriers - had been immunised, in each case with Toxoid Anti-toxin Mixture. There were 9 cases over 15 years of age, the oldest 36 years. All the patients were admitted to the North Wrcs. Joint Isol. Hosptl. Domiciliary treatment for this disease is not encouraged.

Diphtheria Immunisation

The total number of children who have now been immunised is as follows:-

Year	Alum Precipitated Toxoid		Toxoid-Antitoxin Mixture	Total
	1 Inj.	2 Inj.		
1935	1,813	-	3	1,816
1936	972	-	-	972
1937	224	247	46	517
1938	-	201	23	224
1939	-	61	35	96
1940	-	-	112	112
1941	-	65	1397	1462
1942	-	17	1806	1823
Totals -	3,009	591	3422	7,022

NOTE. - During the years 1935 - 7, some 3,009 children were treated with one injection of Alum Precipitated Toxoid which, unfortunately, has not proved very reliable, and those figures are best omitted from any calculations concerning the percentage of children immunised.

Of the children immunised during the year 512 were of pre-school age.

Table showing Incidence
and Severity of Diphtheria

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total Cases</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Mortality Rate</u>	<u>Immunised Cases</u>	<u>Children Deaths</u>
1935	110	18	16.3	3	-
1936	33	5	15.1	3	-
1937	81	3	3.7	6	-
1938	49	2	4.08	6	-
1939	40	7	17.5	11	-
1940	71	2	2.81	9	-
1941	87	5	5.74	8	-
1942	21	-	-	2	-
	<u>492</u>	<u>42</u>		<u>48</u>	

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS),
DURING THE YEAR 1942

<u>Disease</u>	<u>No. of cases</u>	<u>Cases admitted to Hospital</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	1	1
Scarlet Fever	89	67	-
Diphtheria	21	21	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	17	-	-
Pneumonia	13	-	13
Erysipelas	3	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	8	-	-
Whooping Cough	46	-	-
Measles	97	1	-
Dysentery	1	1	-
Totals	296	91	14

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during 1942

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1
5	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
15	5	6	1	-	1	-	-	-
25	3	2	1	-	3	-	1	-
35	3	1	-	1	2	1	-	-
45	2	1	-	-	2	2	-	-
55	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
65 and upwards	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Totals	16	11	3	4	9	4	1	1

The Death Rate for Respiratory Tuberculosis was 0.37 per 1,000 of population as compared with 0.45 in the previous year, while the Death Rate for Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis was 0.057 as compared with 0.085 in 1941.

SUMMARY OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS ON
THE REGISTER AT END OF 1942.

	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
No. of cases on Register 1st January 1942	52	57	19	17
No. of cases notified for the first time during the year under the Regulations	14	9	3	3
No. of cases first heard of otherwise than by primary notification	2	2	-	1
No. of cases removed from Register in previous quarter which have been restored to Register during the quarter	-	-	-	-
Totals	68	68	22	21
No. of cases removed from Register during the year	11	10	2	4
No. of cases remaining on Register at the end of the year	57	58	20	17

I am,
Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
CARRICK G. PAYTON.
Medical Officer of Health.

